



IDAHO SUPERINTENDENTS NETWORK ***LEADING THE WAY TO IMPROVED OUTCOMES***

APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN PHASE III 2011-2012 School Year

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Idaho Superintendents Network is a project developed by the State Department of Education in conjunction with Boise State University's Center for School Improvement and Policy Studies to support the work of district leaders in improving outcomes for all students by focusing on the quality of instruction.

The network is comprised of committed superintendents who work together to develop a cohesive and dedicated leadership community focused on teaching and learning. They support each other as they bring about change and collectively brainstorm obstacles that may prevent improvement in the quality of the instruction in their districts. The Department acts as a resource and provides the necessary research, experts, and planning to bring superintendents from across the state together to discuss self-identified issues.

Topics for discussion include:

- Improved Outcomes for Students
- Developing a Sense of Purpose
- Working with Stakeholders
- District Central Offices and Learning Improvements: Great Urgency, Few Guides
- Creating and Supporting District and Building-Level Leaders
- Analyzing Teaching and Learning through Data

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna is part of the network, as are Deputy Superintendents Rob Sauer, Nick Smith, Carissa Miller and Marybeth Flachbart. The Department's goal is not to drive the conversation but to be a part of meeting the individual needs and challenges of each district superintendent in the network.

Each superintendent selected will receive funding to attend meetings during the 2011-2012 school year. The meetings are facilitated by Marybeth Flachbart. Topics for discussion are selected by Network participants.

Funding for the network is provided by Idaho's Title I School Improvement funds. Superintendents who serve a high percentage of at-risk students will receive special consideration for inclusion in this project. If you have questions, please contact Marybeth Flachbart at mbflachbart@sde.idaho.gov.

Details:

The first meeting will be held in Boise on August 4, 2011 (the day after the Annual State Superintendents Meeting). **A reception and dinner is planned for the evening of August 3.**

Additional meetings are scheduled as follows:

- **November 9 - Coeur d'Alene** in conjunction with Idaho School Boards Assn. Conference. Followed by evening reception and dinner.
- **February** - in conjunction with Idaho School Superintendents Assn. Conference. Date to be announced.

Consulting fees, materials, and travel expenses will be covered through the grant.



APPLICATION SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Participation in Phase III is limited to superintendents. Applications are due to Marybeth Flachbart by **July 1, 2011**. They can be submitted electronically.

Marybeth Flachbart
Deputy Superintendent, Student Achievement
and School Improvement
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Additional School Improvement Information is available online at
http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/title_one/ and
<http://csi.boisestate.edu/improvement.htm>.

PART I

In a brief narrative (no more than one page), please respond to the following:

1. What is your current problem of practice? In other words, what have you identified as an obstacle or challenge to improved student outcomes? For example, are you interested in improving a specific instructional practice throughout the district? Have you identified a specific content or grade span that needs improvement?
2. If you are selected for participation in the Superintendents Network, what do you envision as the role of the network to you professionally?
3. What outcomes do you expect in your district schools as a result of participation in the project?
4. Have you developed, or are you willing to develop, a plan to disseminate information gained from the network to other district or building leaders?

PART II

Provide a short narrative that demonstrates the achievement data of your district.

PART III: REQUIRED APPLICATION SIGNATURE

Superintendent

District

Date

PART IV: PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT

Please review the attached Performance Agreement that outlines the agreed upon responsibilities of all participating superintendents and the Idaho State Department of Education. A copy of the Performance Agreement with required signature must accompany all applications. If selected, Idaho State Department of Education signature will be added and a copy of the complete Performance Agreement returned to participating superintendents.



PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT FOR PHASE III OF THE IDAHO SUPERINTENDENTS NETWORK

THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AGREES TO:

- Provide funding for participation in phase III of the Superintendents Network, which will include the cost of consultants, materials and travel expenses related to participation.
- Oversee collaboration between district superintendents and Boise State University's Center for School Improvement and Policy Studies.
- Participate in all Idaho Superintendents Network meetings.
- Identify and monitor approved Regional Support Centers.

Deputy Superintendent – Student Achievement &
School Improvement

Date

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT AGREES TO:

- Spend the entirety of funds provided by the State Department of Education in contracted services that support the network.
- Attend each of the Superintendents Network meetings.
- Participate in the evaluation of the project.
- Provide student achievement data, if necessary, for program evaluation.
- Participate in related activities between network meetings (selected readings, conference calls, etc.).

Superintendent

District

Date